

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Original): A hook portion for a releasable fastener system comprising:

a support and

a plurality of hook elements disposed on a surface of the support, wherein the plurality of hook elements comprise a magnetorheological elastomer adapted to change a shape orientation and/or a flexural modulus upon receipt of a magnetic signal.

Claim 19 (Original): The hook portion according to Claim 1, wherein the support comprises a metal, a plastic, a fabric, or a combination comprising at least one of the foregoing materials.

Claim 20 (Original): The hook portion according to Claim 1, wherein the hook elements comprise a shape comprising a J-shaped orientation, an L-shape, a mushroom shape, a knob shape, a multi-tined anchor shape, a T-shape, a spiral shape, and combinations comprising at least one of the foregoing shapes.

Claim 21 (Original): A releasable fastener system comprising:

a loop portion comprising a support and a loop material disposed on a surface thereon;

a hook portion comprising a support and a plurality of hook elements disposed on a surface, wherein the plurality of hook elements comprises a magnetorheological elastomer adapted to change a shape orientation and/or flexural modulus; and

means for changing the shape orientation and/or flexural modulus to reduce a shear force and/or a pull-off force of an engaged hook and loop portion and to provide a variable damping capability to the fastener system.